

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 746

By McDonald

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend the owners and operators of Wilkinson and Wiseman Funeral Home for one hundred years of professional and compassionate service to the citizens of Portland, Tennessee.

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is honored to recognize those outstanding businesses within this State whose long histories are intertwined with the history of their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, one such business is Wilkinson and Wiseman Funeral Home of Portland, Tennessee, which has provided one hundred years of honorable and distinguished service to the citizens of Sumner County in a truly caring and compassionate manner; and

WHEREAS, in 1906, Walter Green Wilkinson and his brother Luther Wilkinson purchased the Tobe Anderson Funeral Home and changed the name to Wilkinson Brothers Funeral Home; and

WHEREAS, located near the corner of Broadway Street and Market Street, the Wilkinson Brothers Funeral Home provided community-oriented funeral services, traveling to homes for embalming and providing hand-made casket boxes with fabric lining; and

WHEREAS, Walter Wilkinson received his undertaker's license in 1909, and he built a new funeral home facility in 1910; and

WHEREAS, after Luther Wilkinson left the funeral home business to start a hardware store, Hatton Wilkinson joined the family business in 1910; after two years of serving the good people of Portland, Hatton Wilkinson established his own funeral home in White House, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Walter Wilkinson entered into a partnership with his brother-in-law, James William “Willie” Wiseman, Sr., in 1919; John E. Wilkinson, James’s brother, later joined the funeral home, and the name was changed to Wilkinson Brothers and Wiseman Funeral Home; and

WHEREAS, as a family business, James L. Wilkinson, son of Walter, Harold H. Wilkinson, nephew of the original Wilkinson brothers, and J. W. Wiseman, Jr., son of James William Wilkinson, Sr., have all worked for Wilkinson and Wiseman Funeral Home; and

WHEREAS, presently located on 715 South Broadway in a building that was completed in 1955, Wilkinson and Wiseman Funeral Home has faithfully served the Portland community for one hundred years; and

WHEREAS, Wilkinson and Wiseman Funeral Home, owned and operated at present time by Charles Wilkinson, has occupied three different locations since its founding; throughout the years, the Wilkinson family and the Wiseman family have provided the finest services to the recently departed, bringing comfort and consolation to thousands of grieving family members; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to acknowledge the directors and staff, both past and present, of Wilkinson and Wiseman Funeral Home for the exemplary service they have provided and continue to provide to their community, their ongoing commitment to excellence, and their one hundred years of dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and commend the owners and operators of Wilkinson and Wiseman Funeral Home for the many years of professional and compassionate service they have offered to the residents of Portland and offer our best wishes for continued success in all their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.